

**REMARKS**

Claims 17, 18, 20 and 21 are pending.

**DOUBLE PATENTING**

Claims 17, 18, 20 and 21 are provisionally rejected by the Examiner under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 22-27 of copending Application No. 09/369,978.

With respect to the provisional rejection of claims 17, 18, 20 and 21 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 22-27 of copending application no. 09/369,978, Applicants submit herewith, a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome this rejection. Accordingly, the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer renders the obviousness-type double patenting rejection moot.

Claims 17, 18, 20 and 21 are provisionally rejected by the Examiner under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double-patenting as being unpatentable over claims 22-44 of copending Application No. 08/899,410.

With respect to the provisional rejection of claims 17, 18, 20 and 21 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 22-44 of copending application no. 08/899,410, Applicants submit therewith a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome this rejection. Accordingly, the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer renders the obviousness-type double patenting rejection moot.

U.S. Serial No. 09/369,980

Response to Non-Final Office Action dated November 17, 2004

Response dated February 16, 2005

Claims 17, 18, 20 and 21 are rejected by the Examiner under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-39 of U.S. Patent No. 6,437,064.

With respect to the rejection of claims 17, 18, 20 and 21 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-39 of U.S. Patent No. 6,437,064. Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome this rejection. Accordingly, the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer renders the obviousness-type double patenting rejection moot.

U.S. Serial No. 09/369,980

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims in the application are in allowable form and that the application is now in condition for allowance.

If, however, any outstanding issues remain, Applicants urge the Examiner to telephone


Applicants' agent so that the same may be resolved and the application expedited to issue.

Applicants request the Examiner to indicate all claims as allowable and to pass the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 16, 2005

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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